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22 April 1988

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

VIA:

FROM:

SUBJECT: Meeting with DI in re Historical Review Program

In accordance with my discussion with the DDA, I have continued my dialogue with the DI/IRO concerning the status and future direction of the Historical Review Program.

This Wednesday, we had the first formal meeting with the DI, the C/History Staff, and myself. Just prior to the meeting I had received a formal memo from the DI/IRO stating that it was the considered judgment of the DDI that the material reviewed to date (for example, several years worth of the CIBs) could not and would not be released because of the mosaic problem and that this decision would apply to any serial set of finished intelligence. My task for this meeting was obviously to find some common ground -- i.e. a group of DI records which the DI would agree to review and which the History Staff would find of historical interest to the outside historians.

After much discussion, agreement was reached on my suggestion to pursue an "event-oriented" record selection and review program (vice the current multi-year "time-block" program). As a test, records concerning the early days of CIA involvement in the Korean conflict will be selected from the DI archives as well as the Truman Library. Each block will be separately processed and, within 30 days, we will meet again to assess the results and determine the viability of the new program direction.

My suggestion to use the Presidential Libraries seemed to please both the DI (since it would minimize or eliminate searches) and the History Staff (since the outside historians could not argue that we were "preselecting" material for them).

We now have this program on a timetable and I have emphasized that we will meet on a biweekly or monthly basis to insure that we do not repeat the mistakes of the past.

The issue of resources in the DI was not raised but I did get the agreement of the DI/IRO to participate actively in the program with the new direction. I will keep all advised.

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